

Environmental Committee. The NSSGA member companies account for 90 percent of crushed stone and 70 percent of the sand and gravel used each year in the United States, and employs 115,000 American workers.

Mr. Boraston recognizes that we must all be good environmental stewards. He has made significant contributions in limiting emissions from naturally occurring asbestos to conform to the standards set by the California Resources Board. Mr. Boraston has coordinated summit meetings between government agencies and industry companies, and developed and implemented company-wide environmental management systems to address Granite Construction environmental issues. These are truly commendable actions that exemplify what one individual can contribute to the protection of the environment. We all look forward to Geoff Boraston's continued leadership on the NSSGA Environmental Committee to achieve environmentally sound operating practices.

Granite Construction is one of the Nation's largest heavy civil contractors and construction materials producers. The Watsonville company is a major builder of all types of rail system infrastructure, such as light rail, monorail, commuter rail and freight rail. Granite Construction is currently pursuing some \$12 billion in rapid transit and rail projects to be bid throughout the country over the next year.

HONORING CHRIS COX

SPEECH OF

HON. KEN CALVERT

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 28, 2005

Mr. CALVERT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute and give thanks to my friend and colleague, Chris Cox. After serving in the House for more than 16 years, Chris is now taking on a new challenge by serving as the Chairman of the Securities and Exchange Commission. I think all of us can agree that our loss is most certainly their gain.

Following the redistricting of 2002, I became the newest member of the Orange County delegation and my newly drawn district shared a border with his. Chris immediately welcomed me to the delegation with open arms and graciously introduced me to a host of local government officials, business owners, and community leaders.

If anyone has spent time in his district and enjoyed its extraordinary coastal setting, they would agree that Chris must be a truly dedicated public servant for agreeing to spend so much time here in Washington. Thankfully, he possessed the will to serve in Congress and to be a leader for his county, State and Nation.

During his time in the House, Chris served with distinction in many different roles. Most recently, Chris made history by serving as the first Chairman of the Homeland Security Committee. In this capacity, Chris took on an unprecedented challenge and oversaw the most radical government reform in decades. As those who know Chris would expect, he was up to the task and eager to find out what was working and what needed to be fixed.

Chris came to Congress in 1988 after serving as Senior Associate Counsel to President

Reagan. While at the White House, Chris gained tremendous insight and invaluable experience, but I think he would tell you that the best thing he took away from his time there would be his wife, Rebecca.

I know Chris will take on this new challenge with the same tenacity and vigor that he showed so often on so many important issues here in Congress. I understand Chris wisely decided to keep his home in Orange County, and I look forward working with him in Washington and enjoying the warm California sun with him in Orange County.

ACKNOWLEDGING STUDENTS AND STAFF OF BERTSCHI SCHOOL IN SEATTLE, WA

HON. JAY INSLEE

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, October 17, 2005

Mr. INSLEE. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pleasure that I acknowledge the students and staff of Bertschi School in Seattle, WA, for sending heartfelt greetings to the victims of Hurricane Katrina.

In the aftermath of Hurricane Katrina, I traveled to Houston to visit the evacuees who were housed in the Astrodome. I brought handwritten letters from citizens of my home town, Bainbridge Island, WA, and handed them out as I met so many courageous individuals who had lost everything; their homes, their jobs, their belongings, and in some cases, their families, during their hurried evacuation of New Orleans. As I handed out the letters written by citizens who live thousands of miles away, I witnessed how meaningful these words of compassion and support were to these displaced Americans.

Students at the Bertschi School in Seattle, WA, read about my trip and the positive impact the letters had on the hurricane victims and they wrote to me, asking if they could also send letters to families during my next visit with hurricane evacuees. While I was not able to return to Houston with their letters, I did have the pleasure of reading over their beautiful and inspirational words and art work before the letters made their way to Texas Children's Hospital, where some of the youngest hurricane victims were relocated.

It is among the greatest honors as a Member of the House of Representatives that I have an opportunity to meet and work with young people who are involved in their communities and who are deeply committed to making our country and our world a better place. Our future depends on these young people, who are capable of reaching out and showing support for their fellow citizens.

Though the students of Bertschi School are only in their elementary years, they already have a deep sense of civic pride and connectedness to the greater world and feel they have something to offer, even if it is, as in this case, sharing words of encouragement and compassion.

I commend the students and staff of Bertschi School for their efforts and wish them continued success in the years ahead.

IN HONOR OF THE COMMUNITY ACTION BOARD OF SANTA CRUZ COUNTY

HON. SAM FARR

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, October 17, 2005

Mr. FARR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the Community Action Board of Santa Cruz County, Inc. CAB on the occasion of its 40th anniversary. CAB was created in October 1965 to meet the challenge of President Lyndon B. Johnson's "War on Poverty," and as such is committed to meeting the needs of low-income people.

Since its inception, CAB has assumed responsibilities of great import to the community by providing vital preventative, emergency, and intervention services. They created and administer many programs in Santa Cruz County including Head Start, Second Harvest Food Bank, Legal Aid Society, Housing Authority, Women Infants and Children nutrition program, Senior Citizens Legal Services, Foster Grandparent Program, Women Ventures Project, Natural Resources and Employment Program, and CalWORKS Emergency Payment Program.

CAB played an important role in disaster relief for low-income residents following the devastating Loma Prieta earthquake of 1989 and the 1995 Pajaro River flood. Many of the programs and policies nurtured by CAB successfully reduce poverty and increase independence and self-sufficiency.

Mr. Speaker, it gives me great pleasure to recognize the Community Action Board for its 40 years of leadership in the community. I applaud the many contributions and achievements of the Community Action Board, and am proud to have such an exemplary organization fighting poverty and caring for the needs of the most vulnerable citizens in Santa Cruz County.

SUDAN HIRES WASHINGTON LOBBYIST

HON. FRANK R. WOLF

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, October 17, 2005

Mr. WOLF. Mr. Speaker, here we go again. First it was Patton, Boggs trying to polish the image of Saudi Arabia. Then we had Akin, Gump trying to assist China in buying a U.S. oil company. Now comes the shocking news that a Washington lobby shop has landed the Government of the Republic of Sudan as a client. Where will the lobbying wheel of fortune stop next?

The Government of Sudan has hired Mr. Robert J. Cabelly, managing director, C/R International, to lobby on its behalf. How can an American company use such bad judgment and represent a country whose leaders are suspected of organizing and arming militias to commit genocide? And why did the United States State Department sign-off on such a plan?

While shocking to some, it may not be all that surprising for anyone familiar with Mr. Cabelly's history. After working at the State Department for more than a decade where he

developed hundreds of contacts in Africa, Mr. Cabelly went on to found C/R International. This international consulting firm received \$6 million from Angola from 1996 to 2002 in order to successfully defeat a series of bills for an international oil embargo, according to a Harper's magazine article from March 2004. "While [Mr. Cabelly's firm] served Angola, the government's troops beat and raped civilians, and killed suspected rebel sympathizers," wrote Harper's magazine.

On August 12 of this year, Mr. Cabelly filed with the Foreign Agents Registration Unit at the Department of Justice, reporting a contract with the Government of the Republic of Sudan for \$530,000 per year. The contract lists the agreed representation by Mr. Cabelly for the Government of Sudan as providing "public relations, government relations and strategic counsel as they would relate to implementing the North-South peace agreement, cooperating in the war on terrorism, and addressing other issues."

But make no mistake, Sudan is hiring this firm to help counteract the ongoing worldwide campaign against the government's policy in the Darfur region of the country. This American company is taking money to wage a lobbying war against the hundreds of organizations and more than 130 million Americans who have voiced their concern about the situation in Sudan. While coalition groups work every day to call the world's attention to the regime in Khartoum and its condoning of the action of a violent militia which is raping and killing innocent women, men and children and pillaging villages in Darfur, they might be surprised to learn that one of the Government of Sudan's contract employees is working against it right here in Washington. Just last week there were new reports that the violence in Darfur is growing worse. The Sudan government has not reined in the janjaweed militia.

There is no question about what is occurring in Sudan. Last year the United States clearly stated that genocide is occurring in Darfur. This Congress passed a resolution affirming it. President Bush has called the actions in Darfur as genocide on repeated occasions. The United Nations has referred the case to an international tribunal to investigate war crimes.

I have been involved on Sudan issues for over 15 years. I have traveled to Sudan five times since 1989 with my most recent trip last summer to Darfur. I talked with women who had been raped and families whose members had been murdered. I saw emaciated children, dying from hunger and disease. I have seen with my own eyes bombed schools in Yei and horrific scenes of devastation inflicted upon the people of Sudan by government forces. The war between the Government of Sudan and the Sudan People's Liberation Army claimed the lives of over two million people and has left the country in despair. Although the fighting is over in the South and a Comprehensive Peace Agreement awaits implementation, death and destruction at the hands of the government and its proxy militia in Darfur continues unabated.

The United States Government and the United States Congress stands united with the people of Sudan and any lobbyist who walks these halls on behalf of the Government of Sudan is not welcome. The Sudan regime should be spending its money reining in the

Janjaweed, and turning over criminals to the International Criminal Court, not hiring lobbyists to try to improve their image.

We are all aware of the actions of the Government of Sudan and no amount of lobbying will change that.

IN HONOR OF PENNY S. SINCLAIR

HON. SAM FARR

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, October 17, 2005

Mr. FARR. Mr. Speaker, today it gives me great pleasure to recognize Ms. Penny S. Sinclair, Director of Contracting at the Army Contracting Agency, Southern Region, at the Presidio of Monterey, California, for her 31 years of distinguished service to our Nation.

Ms. Sinclair is a member of the American Society of Military Comptrollers. She began her career as a Clerk Typist in 1971. She became an Acquisition Intern in September 1984 and graduated with honors. Throughout her career she received numerous awards, all reflecting her support for military services and civilian support staff in the highest manner possible.

She was appointed as the Director of Contracting in April 1993, at the time of Fort Ord's Base Realignment and Closure. Throughout this challenging time she dealt with year-end closure pressures, loss of personnel and a variety of emergency requirements with professionalism and superior performance. For this work she received a Special Act or Service Award and later was honored with the Commander's Award for Civilian Service. Ms. Sinclair was selected to serve on the Base Closure Ceremony team and was given the honor of assisting in the folding of the Fort Ord Parade Field flag for the last time. She returned as Director in 1999, continuing in that capacity until this year.

Ms. Sinclair was a renowned advocate for the installation organizations, its tenants, and the local business community. During her tenure the Presidio of Monterey exceeded its goals to work with small businesses and woman-owned businesses. She habitually sought opportunities to work with the regional Small Business Administration office and the cities on the Monterey Peninsula. Ms. Sinclair continuously encouraged her staff to expand their learning experience through formal and informal training, and made sure that her staff received monetary rewards for excellent performance. Ms. Sinclair personally provided a workplace that allowed employees to grow and have opportunities for promotion within the organization.

Serving as the Project Officer for Naval Support Activity Monterey Bay, Ms. Sinclair did a masterful job working the very difficult support agreements for fire protection services and public works support. She identified and recommended downsizing areas which were inefficient and costly and saved DLIFLC and POM over one million dollars per year.

Mr. Speaker, Penny Sinclair's professionalism, untiring dedication, and personal involvement reflect great credit upon herself, the Army Contracting Agency, and the United States Army. Her contributions to the Army's contracting mission and her unselfish passion for the contracting profession over the past 31

years have earned her the recognition of this body.

RECOGNIZING PROVIDENCE HIGH SCHOOL

HON. SUE WILKINS MYRICK

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, October 17, 2005

Mrs. MYRICK. Mr. Speaker, I would like to recognize one of the schools in my district, Providence High School. The Providence Varsity and Junior Varsity Lacrosse Teams have recently been admitted into the North Carolina High School Lacrosse Association, a prestigious group of schools competing in one of the fastest growing sports in the country. This is a great honor for Providence, because it is the only High School in the Charlotte Mecklenburg School System to be admitted to this Association. It also shows the commitment and dedication of the coach, the parents, and the players at Providence.

The coach of the Providence lacrosse team, William Humphrey, does an excellent job with the students. He focuses on teamwork, discipline, and the importance of academics. Due to Coach Humphrey's excellent coaching skills, Providence has had a number of outstanding and successful lacrosse seasons.

The parents are also hugely important to the success of this program. Their commitment to their children and the sport are the reason why the program continues to have success every year. In addition, the students involved in this program should be recognized for their commitment to academics and lacrosse. Each year students on the lacrosse team graduate and go on to many prestigious colleges, many of which have leading lacrosse programs.

I congratulate Providence High School lacrosse team on their achievement of being admitted to the North Carolina High School Lacrosse Association, and I wish them many successful seasons.

RECOGNIZING THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF SOUTH CAROLINA FARM BUREAU MUTUAL INSURANCE COMPANY

HON. JOHN M. SPRATT, JR.

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, October 17, 2005

Mr. SPRATT. Mr. Speaker, I would like to join my colleagues in recognizing the South Carolina Farm Bureau Mutual Insurance Company, SCFBMIC, on its 50th Anniversary. As its motto—"Helping you is what we do best"—suggests, the South Carolina Farm Bureau Insurance Company has provided a wide range of financial services to the people of our state for half a century.

South Carolina Farm Bureau Insurance came along at a time when South Carolina farmers were looking for better options in the way of obtaining good insurance coverage that was also affordable. Recognizing that need, the board members of the South Carolina Farm Bureau Federation went to work and secured a charter from the South Carolina Secretary of State on December 1, 1955. The result, 5 decades later, is a company that supplies a diversity of insurance products to